Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of processing calls in an aggregate telecommunications network having at least two subnetworks, comprising the steps of:

creating a set of decision criteria, applied in a~~said~~ first of said at least two subnetworks, that determine which calls entering said first of said at least two subnetworks should receive service processing in a~~said~~ second of said at least two subnetworks;

for calls that are to receive service processing in said second subnetwork, guiding those calls to that subnetwork;

invoking service processing by said second of said at least two subnetworks based on the particular type of incoming trunk the call comes in on.

2. (original) A method as in claim 1 further comprising the step of:

providing information conveyed by signaling that accompanies the call guided from the first subnetwork to the second subnetwork that is sufficient for causing the invocation of service processing in the second subnetwork.

3. (original) A method as in claim 1 further comprising the step of:

providing information conveyed by signaling that accompanies the call guided from the first to second subnetwork that is sufficient for supporting service processing in the second subnetwork.

4. (original) A method as in claim 2 wherein said information conveyed by signaling comprises:

information selected from the group of routing number, original dialed number, an explicit trigger or a combination thereof.

5. (previously presented) A method as in claim 3 wherein said conveyed by signaling is selected from the group of information available to the first subnetwork calling party number, original dialed number, routing number, charge number, Originating Line Information, Customer ID, or a combination thereof.

6. (previously presented) A method as in claim 1 further comprising the step of:

targeting a specific element or type of element within said second subnetwork of said at least two subnetworks to invoke service processing for the call.

7. (previously presented) A method as in claim 6 where the selection of the specific element or type of element within said second subnetwork is based on the location of the origination of the call into the first said subnetwork.

8. (previously presented) A method as in claim 1 wherein said decision criteria is selected from at least one of the group of:

service type, features potentially applicable within a given service type, called party number, original dialed number, how close the ingress switch in said first subnetwork is in terms of some proximity measure to said second subnetwork, the identity or type of the particular trunk group over which the call entered said first of said at least two subnetworks, the ANI of the call, the calling party number of the call, the current load allocation of the first of said at least two subnetworks, the current load allocation of the second of said at least two sub networks, the existence of a qualifying routing plan or routing information to send a call into said second of said at least two subnetworks, an on/off toggle administrable from a work center, the type of service processor requires to handle the call or a combination thereof.

9. (previously presented) A method as in claim 1 wherein the guidance of calls to the second subnetwork is responsive to a routing number.

10. (previously presented) A method as in claim 6 further comprising:

identifying qualified Routing Plans and using said qualified plans in said decision step wherein the provisioning system responsible for installing Routing Plans as part of service logic examines each plan to determine its eligibility for service processing in the second subnetwork.

11. (new) A method as in claim 1 wherein the type of trunk is a switched access trunk.

12. (new) A method as in claim 1 wherein the type of trunk is a nodal trunk.